

Chief to - Mrs. Moffett

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Dr. S. A. Moffett.
Pyengyang, Korea.

March 9 1905

Rev. A. J. Brown D.D.
156 Fifth Ave
New York City.

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Dear Dr. Brown:

It is my privilege to write you the monthly account of the work of the station, and a special pleasure it is this month because of the remarkable blessing which has been granted us in our work.

January witnessed a most successful Winter Training class with an attendance of some 700 men; another profitable term of the Theological Class; the closing of the term of the Advanced School for Women & Girls under Miss. Smith's charge, the attendance having been larger than last year; and the opening of a new term of the Academy with a large increase in attendance, many coming as self-supporting pupils.

All of these mark progress and a growing solidity in the work.

After the Training class came the annual exodus of missionaries, evangelists, helpers and leaders who scattered far and wide for a series of county classes. Succeeding during and following the Korean New Year season, Mr.

Lee going to Ayer Church to assist in their large
Class there held at New Year.

The reports from these Classes give increased evidence
of the exceeding great value of this feature of our work
while they show a state of inquiry greater than ever
before, new zeal and consecration on the part of the
Christians, and a spiritual revival within the Church
which is reaching out to the unconverted and bringing in
larger numbers than at any previous time. I cannot now
write you details of this work but must tell you of what
has occurred in and around the city.

In January Mr. Koons & Miss Kirkwood gave attention to two
suburban villages each about 2 miles out - where for some
time we have had a few believers in connection with the city
Church - villages where considerable seed sowing had been done
but which had received very little attention or oversight.

Their visit precipitated matters and soon crystallized
conviction. In the one group of villages there were
some gathered some 70 or more people who gave up spirit
wrath, kept the Sabbath and confessed faith in Christ.
The Christians who had been there went to work with a will
rejoiced that at least they were to be looked after.

After a few visits from Mr. Koons & Dr. Whitney's teacher this
group was ready for an advance movement. They raised
over 500 money for a Church building, bought a house

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near the city - took it down and removed it to their village and are ready to set it up as a Church just as soon as the spring opens up. While Dr. Whiting was away his teacher and a city Christian held a Class there for the men, followed by a class held for the women by Mrs. Woffelt Bible woman and the City Church woman Missionary. There are now 50 or more in this group which will soon be organized as a separate group giving up its connection with the City Church.

In the other village a similar work has developed. Their leader is a young man the son of one of the first men baptized here in 1894. He had gonorrhea - had fallen into sin and was a cause of anxiety to his parent and to us for a while. Last fall I refused to baptize his child until he showed clear evidence of true repentance. This seemed to make him up. He attended the winter class, received a spiritual blessing, and went back to work zealously in his village, with the result that he soon came urging a visit from the Missionary. Mr. Koons & Miss Kirkwood made a few visits there, and soon that village was rejoicing over a work of grace. Mr. Bernheim preached to them one Sabbath and they began coming to the city service. The young man's father saw a demon was reprieved. He went one day and super-intended the destruction and burning of the idols and evil spirit shrines in some twenty houses.

There are now in this village some 50 or more meeting for worship and planning to build a church this spring.

This work however and the report from the County classes were both harbingers of the most remarkable movement we have yet seen in N. Korea.

(Plans were already made for Bible Study Classes for men and for women in the city, commenced in February, beginning with the Korean New Year when the merchants close their shops for several days and are at leisure.)

Mr. Swales finished his work with the Theological class and I came back from two successful classes in the County, one with Mr. Bernheim and one with Mr. Blair in which I had seen in the one a great spiritual blessing upon the Church, in the other great zeal and enthusiasm in seeking the conversion of unbelievers. They are planned for a regular Evangelistic Campaign in the city in connection with the City Classes.

(In the morning we taught about 150 men in the old church building, while the ladies of the station had over 150 women in classes in the Central Church.

In the afternoon we combined these into a Conference at the Central Church with an attendance of over 400 men and women.) An hour was spent in the discussion of such topics as Family Religion, Marriage, Sabbath observance and Truthfulness - followed by Prayer.

(Then we divided into groups of four or five each, took sheet tracts and printed invitations and systematically canvassed the whole city, visiting every house and distributing tracts and the invitations to the night meetings, both Central and South Gate Churches.

At night the Evangelistic services were held - the buildings soon being full.) From the second night on decision was asked for ^{each night} and there were from 20 to 50 men and women in the Central Church and from 10 to 40 in the S. Gate Church who rose, signifying their decision to accept Christ, came forward for League and gave in their names as believers.

(The city became a regular bee-hive of religious activity, the counts soon ran up into the hundreds and the meetings increased in interest.) In the May Street Chapel Mr. Bernhard & Dr. Whiting began services to relieve the Congregation at the the S. Gate and in this suburban group proportionate results were obtained.

(For two weeks we continued this work and then changed the character of the meetings making them for the special instruction of the hundreds of new believers. The Church was converted into a school studying the Catechism.

The new believers were divided into groups of ten each with a teacher while in the gallery from one to two hundred unbelievers, who came each night, were searched

to by ^{a native} Elder, ~~and~~ and the Unbelieving woman were instructed by) Sin Si (the Pastor's assistant among the women). Each night during these meetings also from 8 to 15 more reached a decision. (Since these meetings closed we have arranged a special meeting every Saturday night for the instruction of the new believers. At these meetings, at the Wednesday Prayer meeting and at the Sabbath services there have been still others who have risen upon invitation to accept Christ and we now have enrolled some 900 names of men and women in the city Churches who since Feb; 1st have reached the decision to be Christians.

A hundred or more of these represent ^{other} "villages and cities some from as far away as 300 miles, away up on the Yalu and some from as far south as Seoul. Most of them are men & women who have been considering the question for months & years, who have read much and heard more of the gospel, the Elders declaring that their examination for the Catechumate shows many of them to be ready for baptism.

One feature of the work was the fact that most of our Elders & leaders were away holding County classes and the work devolved upon the deacons and the leaders of Teams who responded most effectively, they themselves thus developing into more valuable workers.

The Elders & Leaders came back from the ~~city~~ County
 classes in time for part of the meetings and in time for the
 work of instruction, rejoicing greatly over the reports which
 had reached them.

We are overwhelmed with work and are pressing into
 service all who are able to teach and all who have
 leisure for service in city or country. The Academy boys
 have rendered valuable assistance both in canvassing the
 city and in looking up new converts to remind them
 of the Prayer-meetings and the special Saturday night meetings.
 We are face to face with another problem, i.e., how
 to accommodate our congregation. The large Central
 Church and the new South Gate Church (not yet finished)
 are both full and even before we finish the second
 building we need a third. We shall urge increased
 contributions and their immediate payment in hopes of
 finishing the S. Gate Church at once, leaving us free
 to go ahead with plans for a third church.

We are happy over the situation even tho' perplexed
 as to how to plan for the accomplishment of so much
 that is demanding attention. We are sorely swamped
 by the demands upon us for instruction, examination,
 oversight and organization.

The best of it is this movement is not confined to
the city. It is springing up and spreading all through

the country and from every County, Church and group we hear of larger congregations, too small buildings, new believers in other villages, and other groups being formed. People who have been hearing the gospel for years and who see, that though all the disturbances and changes the Church of Christ alone goes on steadily, making for joy and peace and clean lives are now repenting of their sins and seeking peace and pardon.)

A few days ago a sorceress sent me her two large drums, her gongs and Cymbals and other paraphernalia, her husband who brought them rejoicing that they had been freed from devil worship. A letter from a country leader tells of work in seven new villages. A prominent man from another city came to me yesterday with a list of 15 men who with him wish to be believers and urge me to go back with him to instruct them. (I cannot go. my hands are too full of work here.) A letter received last night from a city 100 miles away from a man who was converted here, last month asks for a load of books saying that the whole city is aroused with a spirit of inquiry and he wants books for their instruction. The new converts are already at work and are bringing in others.

A Colporteur comes in today saying there are 100 new believers in a church 25 miles west. The leader of another group come in for sheet tracts saying they have arranged

to visit all the villages around them. Couraging the
 homes as was done in the city. Here and in many other
 groups the people are contributing so many days each
 of Evangelist's service. Even as I write Miss Kilmann's
 teacher comes in to report. While she is in the country
 teaching a class in one section we utilize him by sending
 him to another section where in some ten or more villages
 there are men who reached a decision in the city meetings.
 He reports these men as rejoiced to see him - also a gathering
 of 15 in one village where for some time we have had 4 or 5
 believers, while in other central and large villages there is
 a wide spread spirit of inquiry.

(I have never known a time when we had so many ripe
 opportunities and while we now have a good many workers
 yet we cannot compass the work. All are working away at
 full leisure and we are making use of all available
 men and all faces, yet with such opportunities we need
 more workers.)

This is the situation we are confronting and which at
 last Saturday meeting caused us to take action making
 special representation to the Board. Of our need of
 three new workers - immediately - one for the Academy,
 in place of Mr. McBurne if he is not coming, one
 single lady for Evangelist and school work, and one
 a clerical worker with a view to relieving Mr. Lee

of part of his County work.

We urge the sending of these three before fall.

The Academy needs two men and altho we are indirectly providing that amount of teaching it is done at the expense of the present Evangelistic work. Mr. Blair ought now to be on his County Circuit, or in the strategic point of Au Ju, but he is tied down to teaching for two months in the Academy. In April - May and June Mr. Lee will be tied down in the same way and his County work is already suffering from lack of attention.

The Academy is developing into a strong, influential institution but it needs the constant oversight and joint direction of two men who can supplement each other in order that it should be the best, well rounded institution we want to make it. Dr. Baird has his hands so full that it is simply impossible for him to develop all departments of the work and we are failing to make the greatest use of a fine opportunity. This imperative need recognized for three years by station + Mission we again present with great urgency.

The need for another single lady is greater than we can possibly make clear to you. Our County women plead for classes. They long to study and will cheerfully bear all their expenses but we are able to provide for only about 10² classes a year in each Missionary Circuit.

so that with our present force we can have a class
for women ^{in each group} conducted by one of the missionary ladies
about once in 8 years.

These County Classes are one of the most important
features of the whole work and my own judgment is
that if in order to provide for our Educational work,
which is imperative - we are forced to cut off these
Classes we will strike out what has been the
most distinguishing as well as the most effective agency
in the development of our wide-spread Evangelistic work
in N. Korea.

We are taxing the strength of our ladies to the utmost,
are keeping the Girls' School term down to $3\frac{1}{2}$ months
in the year and yet we do not reach even the strategic
points with one class a year.

County Class work is exacting, taxing the strength of the
ladies and is possible only at certain seasons of the year.
Each one can conduct not more than eight such classes
for one week to ten days each in addition to city
classes, school work, home visits, etc., so that
with but 3 ladies (only 2 this year) we can provide
for not more than about 20 classes when we ought
to have nearer 50. Each one of us who has one
or more County Circuits would gladly plan for from 10 to
20 such classes each and it would be exceedingly profitable

Could we do so. That income would mean about 100 classes a year which we have no hope of securing. We ought however to be able to make provision for a far larger number than we now have. The work Miss Best, Miss Snow has done and Miss Kirkwood is now doing is simply invaluable. Their classes strengthen, solidify, and establish the grade.

The new station to be opened in Ohang Hai will soon call for a lady and she should be here soon helping for it.

The third need is for a man to relieve Mr. Lee.

He finds it impossible to care for his work. He has too much, while more & more we are of necessity putting upon him more work in Peking in connection with local Church work, Sunday, Theological & Training classes and Building.

He has for three years called attention to the neglected of his country work. It is suffering and opportunities for advance are being lost and we are not reaping our own harvests.

We feel the need for these three workers so keenly that we have taken special action and the station instructed Mr. Blair some in connection with the monthly letter to present this request to the Board.

Our need ought to appeal to some good man now finishing his Seminary course.

With kindest regards

Yours very sincerely
Samuel Moffatt.